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| 24978 | 7590 | 03/15/2006 | EXAMINER | |
| GREER, BURNS & CRAIN 300 S WACKER DR 25TH FLOOR CHICAGO, IL 60606 | | | THEISEN, DOUGLAS J | |
| | | | ART UNIT | PAPER NUMBER |
| | | | 1724 | |

DATE MAILED: 03/15/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/687,505

Applicant(s)

WANG, ZERONG

Examiner

Douglas J. Theisen

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 09 January 2006.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-17 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1,5 and 14 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 2-4,6-13 and 15-17 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 16 October 2003 is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☒ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION***Information Disclosure Statement***

The listing of references in the Search Report is not considered to be an information disclosure statement (IDS) complying with 37 CFR 1.98. 37 CFR 1.98(a)(2) requires a legible copy of: (1) each foreign patent; (2) each publication or that portion which caused it to be listed; (3) for each cited pending U.S. application, the application specification including claims, and any drawing of the application, or that portion of the application which caused it to be listed including any claims directed to that portion, unless the cited pending U.S. application is stored in the Image File Wrapper (IFW) system; and (4) all other information, or that portion which caused it to be listed. In addition, each IDS must include a list of all patents, publications, applications, or other information submitted for consideration by the Office (see 37 CFR 1.98(a)(1) and (b)), and MPEP § 609.04(a), subsection I. states, "the list ... must be submitted on a separate paper." Therefore, the references cited in the Search Report have not been considered. Applicant is advised that the date of submission of any item of information or any missing element(s) will be the date of submission for purposes of determining compliance with the requirements based on the time of filing the IDS, including all "statement" requirements of 37 CFR 1.97(e). See MPEP § 609.05(a).

1. The listing of references in the specification is not a proper information disclosure statement. 37 CFR 1.98(b) requires a list of all patents, publications, or other information submitted for consideration by the Office, and MPEP § 609.04(a) states, "the list may not be incorporated into the specification but must be submitted in a separate paper." Therefore, unless

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the references have been cited by the examiner on form PTO-892, they have not been considered.

Drawings

2. The drawings are objected to because the reference numbers are not legible. They are too small. Corrected drawing sheets in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d) are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. Any amended replacement drawing sheet should include all of the figures appearing on the immediate prior version of the sheet, even if only one figure is being amended. The figure or figure number of an amended drawing should not be labeled as "amended." If a drawing figure is to be canceled, the appropriate figure must be removed from the replacement sheet, and where necessary, the remaining figures must be renumbered and appropriate changes made to the brief description of the several views of the drawings for consistency. Additional replacement sheets may be necessary to show the renumbering of the remaining figures. Each drawing sheet submitted after the filing date of an application must be labeled in the top margin as either "Replacement Sheet" or "New Sheet" pursuant to 37 CFR 1.121(d). If the changes are not accepted by the examiner, the applicant will be notified and informed of any required corrective action in the next Office action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

3. The drawings are objected to as failing to comply with 37 CFR 1.84(p)(4) because reference character "25" on fig. 1 has been used to designate both "potable water outlet" and "ozone branch inflating tube". Corrected drawing sheets in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d) are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. Any amended replacement drawing sheet should include all of the figures appearing on the immediate prior

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version of the sheet, even if only one figure is being amended. Each drawing sheet submitted after the filing date of an application must be labeled in the top margin as either "Replacement Sheet" or "New Sheet" pursuant to 37 CFR 1.121(d). If the changes are not accepted by the examiner, the applicant will be notified and informed of any required corrective action in the next Office action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

4. The drawings are objected to as failing to comply with 37 CFR 1.84(p)(4) because reference character "20" in fig. 1 has been used to designate both "sewage-draining valve" and "temperature-preserving layer". Corrected drawing sheets in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d) are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. Any amended replacement drawing sheet should include all of the figures appearing on the immediate prior version of the sheet, even if only one figure is being amended. Each drawing sheet submitted after the filing date of an application must be labeled in the top margin as either "Replacement Sheet" or "New Sheet" pursuant to 37 CFR 1.121(d). If the changes are not accepted by the examiner, the applicant will be notified and informed of any required corrective action in the next Office action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

5. The drawings are objected to as failing to comply with 37 CFR 1.84(p)(5) because they include the following reference character(s) not mentioned in the description: 14 and 15 on fig. 1; 32 on fig. 2 and 3; 57 and 58 on fig. 8; 65, 71, 80, and 88 on fig. 9. Corrected drawing sheets in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d), or amendment to the specification to add the reference character(s) in the description in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(b) are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. Any amended replacement drawing sheet should include all of the figures appearing on the immediate prior version of the sheet, even if

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only one figure is being amended. Each drawing sheet submitted after the filing date of an application must be labeled in the top margin as either "Replacement Sheet" or "New Sheet" pursuant to 37 CFR 1.121(d). If the changes are not accepted by the examiner, the applicant will be notified and informed of any required corrective action in the next Office action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

6. The drawings are objected to as failing to comply with 37 CFR 1.84(p)(5) because they do not include the following reference sign(s) mentioned in the description: 22 on fig. 1; 29 and 36 on fig. 2 and 3; 53 on fig. 7; 55 on fig. 8; 52 on fig. 9. Corrected drawing sheets in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d) are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. Any amended replacement drawing sheet should include all of the figures appearing on the immediate prior version of the sheet, even if only one figure is being amended. Each drawing sheet submitted after the filing date of an application must be labeled in the top margin as either "Replacement Sheet" or "New Sheet" pursuant to 37 CFR 1.121(d). If the changes are not accepted by the examiner, the applicant will be notified and informed of any required corrective action in the next Office action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

7. The drawings are objected to as failing to comply with 37 CFR 1.84(p)(4) because reference character "39" on fig. 7 has been used to designate both "hot water pot" and "solar water heater". Corrected drawing sheets in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d) are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. Any amended replacement drawing sheet should include all of the figures appearing on the immediate prior version of the sheet, even if only one figure is being amended. Each drawing sheet submitted after the filing

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date of an application must be labeled in the top margin as either "Replacement Sheet" or "New Sheet" pursuant to 37 CFR 1.121(d). If the changes are not accepted by the examiner, the applicant will be notified and informed of any required corrective action in the next Office action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

8. The drawings are objected to as failing to comply with 37 CFR 1.84(p)(4) because reference character "76" on fig. 9 has been used to designate both "pump" and "?". Corrected drawing sheets in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d) are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. Any amended replacement drawing sheet should include all of the figures appearing on the immediate prior version of the sheet, even if only one figure is being amended. Each drawing sheet submitted after the filing date of an application must be labeled in the top margin as either "Replacement Sheet" or "New Sheet" pursuant to 37 CFR 1.121(d). If the changes are not accepted by the examiner, the applicant will be notified and informed of any required corrective action in the next Office action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

Specification

9. A substitute specification excluding the claims is required pursuant to 37 CFR 1.125(a) because the number of paragraphs with amendments render it difficult to consider the application and render it difficult to arrange the papers for printing or copying.

A substitute specification must not contain new matter. The substitute specification must be submitted with markings showing all the changes relative to the immediate prior version of the specification of record. The text of any added subject matter must be shown by underlining

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the added text. The text of any deleted matter must be shown by strike-through except that double brackets placed before and after the deleted characters may be used to show deletion of five or fewer consecutive characters. The text of any deleted subject matter must be shown by being placed within double brackets if strike-through cannot be easily perceived. An accompanying clean version (without markings) and a statement that the substitute specification contains no new matter must also be supplied. Numbering the paragraphs of the specification of record is not considered a change that must be shown.

10. A substitute specification in proper idiomatic English and in compliance with 37 CFR 1.52(a) and (b) is required. The substitute specification filed must be accompanied by a statement that it contains no new matter.

For example: On page 2, lines 8 and 9 it is unclear what is meant by “the fastigium of city water consumption”. Does applicant mean “the peak of city water consumption”? On page 5, lines 13, 15, 19, and 20 and in the amendment, pages 13 and 14, of 9 January 2006 to the paragraph on page 14, line 16 it is unclear what is meant by “ozone inflating tube”. Does applicant mean “ozone supply tube”? In the amendment, page 8, line 13 and page 12, line 1, it is unclear what is meant by “feculences”. Does applicant mean “feces”?

Claim Objections

11. Claims 7, 8, 14, and 15 are objected to because of the following informalities: It is unclear what is meant by “ozone branch inflating tube” and “ozone inflating tube”. Does applicant mean “ozone branch supply tube” and “ozone supply tube”? Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

12. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

13. Claim 14 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

14. Claim 14 recites the limitation “said bottom of said filtering bags” in lines 5 and 6. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

15. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

16. Claim 1 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. patent no. 1,531,808 to Parkinson. Parkinson describes a water supply system including a plurality of pipe valves (valves 11, 15, 24, 25, etc.), a plurality of instruments (thermostat in chamber 9, temperature gauge 13), and a water supply piping network (pipes 1, 3, 6, 8, 27, 29, 30, etc.), the system further including a multifunctional water supply tank (sterilizer 7), at least one filtering cylinder assembly (casing 14 with filter bed 18) and a water supply piping network, where said filtering cylinder assembly is in communication with a potable water outlet through a plurality of

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pipes (pipe 10) and is provided outside said water supply tank, and the pipe valves and instruments corresponding with said filtering cylinder assembly form a purified water supply piping network (water distribution system). See the figure and page 1, line 49 to line 109.

17. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

18. Claims 1 and 5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. patent no. 6,393,775 to Staschik. Staschik describes a water supply system including a plurality of pipe valves, a plurality of instruments (control equipment 98 and control panel 96), and a water supply piping network (conduits 32, 72, 46, 84, 60, etc.), the system further including a multifunctional water supply tank (storage tank 40), at least one filtering cylinder assembly (filter 42) and a water supply piping network, where said filtering cylinder assembly is in communication with a potable water outlet through a plurality of pipes and is provided outside said water supply tank, and the pipe valves and instruments corresponding with said filtering cylinder assembly form a purified water supply piping network. Staschik describes a multifunctional water supply tank, including a service water storage room (potable cold water storage tank 40) in communication with a potable water storage room (pressurized potable water storage tank 44) and containing purifying agents (filter 42), a potable water outlet and a water outlet communicating with a solar water heater (solar hot water-heat exchanger tank 52).

Allowable Subject Matter

19. Claims 2-4, 6-13, and 15-17 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

20. Claim 14 would be allowable if rewritten to overcome the rejection(s) under 35 U.S.C. 112, 2nd paragraph, set forth in this Office action and to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

21. The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter: The reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter are that the closest prior art shows applicant's features as defined in claim 1. The closest prior art does not show applicant's features of claim 1 in combination with the purified water filtering assembly, the water supply piping network, and the plurality of instruments being configured for the use of high-standard industrial pure water processing and seawater desalination, wherein sewage drained from the system is purified into neutral water. The closest prior art does not show applicant's features of claim 1 in combination with a purifying device and a solar water heater wherein the multifunctional water supply tank and the purifying device and solar water heater can be located separately on a building's roof or a ground floor in accordance with a height of the building matched with a reachable height of the water supply pressure in the piping network, the system being mounted in a way of either single function or multifunction, and a central water sales station being established for buildings that are difficult to reconstruct with independent household water supply services to sporadically provide pure water and electrically-heated water. The closest

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prior art does not show applicant's features of claim 1 in combination with a neutral water recycling two-story structure disposed under a parking lot or lawn in a residential area for a separate processing of collected life sewage, roof rainwater and ground surface rainwater, the structure being provided with a sewage fence and being constructed by casting with anti-infiltration reinforced concrete, the structure further having a biochemical processing pool with a through hole, a depositing pool, a buffer pool, a rebounded filtering pool, a neutral water-classifying storage pool, a sewage-draining water-collecting well, a quality-distinguished super filtering machine and neutral water recycling pipes as well as a frequency-converting pump house connected with a plurality of water draining pipes and a pipe valve located on a top of the biochemical processing pool for marsh gas drainage and supply, a float position-limiting device connecting an electric switch to switch on or off an ozone disinfectant and a quality-distinguishing super filtering machine, a slope being arranged in an upper part of the pool, the upper part being provided with sewage draining pipes and valves connected with the sewage-draining water-collecting well for sewage drainage.

22. The reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter are that the closest prior art shows applicant's features as defined in claim 5. The closest prior art does not show applicant's features of claim 5 in combination with a separating wall between the service water storage room and the potable water storage room, and wherein a through hole is provided in the separating wall the potable water outlet being located in an upper part of the potable water storage room. The closest prior art does not show applicant's features of claim 5 in combination with purifying agents including plastic-net filtering bags containing quartz grits, an ozone inflating tube having an end extending outside the tank and connected with an ozone generator, the plastic-net filtering

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bags being disposed in a movable plastic tube supporting frame. The closest prior art does not show applicant's features of claim 5 in combination with a plurality of filtering bags and an ozone branch inflating tube, the tube having one end in communication with an ozone inflating tube and another end extending into a bottom of the filtering bags in the service water storage room. The closest prior art does not show applicant's features of claim 5 in combination with the service water storage room including an inlet having a float-type automatic switch valve, a glass-visualized water level gage and an overflow pipe located outside the water supply tank, and a sewage draining valve individually disposed at a bottom of the service water storage room and that of the potable water storage room. The closest prior art does not show applicant's features of claim 5 in combination with at the bottom of the service water storage room and the potable water storage room, two inclined foam concrete-filled temperature-preserving layers are disposed at either side of a sewage draining valve, and a stainless steel plate is covered on one of the two foam concrete-filled temperature-preserving layers. The closest prior art does not show applicant's features of claim 5 in combination with a water tank wall, a tank cover, and a plurality of outlet pipes connected with the water outlet, the water tank wall, the tank cover, and the outlet pipes being individually made of a light steel plate-wire-net-concrete layer or a stainless steel inner wall, a micro electronically-heated layer, a temperature-preserved foam concrete layer, a polymer temperature-preserving heat-isolating layer, and a temperature-preserving light-reflecting surface film, the micro electrically-heated layer being composed of a heat-conductive isolating film, a 36V micro electrically-heating film or plate, and an isolating film, which are connected in succession. The closest prior art does not show applicant's features

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of claim 5 in combination with a purified water-circulating return pipe being connected to an upper part of the potable water storage room.

Conclusion

23. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Douglas J. Theisen whose telephone number is 571-272-1168. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday 6:30 until 4:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Duane Smith can be reached on 571-272-1166. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

djt

DUANE SMITH
PRIMARY EXAMINER

D-JT
3-13-06